

D-20866

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to more particularly define Applicants' claimed invention. Claim 4 has been cancelled due to incorporation of the subject matter thereof into claims 1 and 11. Claim 8 has been cancelled due to incorporation of the subject matter thereof into claim 1.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Quigley (US 5,324,248) is respectfully traversed.

In view of the amendment of independent claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of non-rejected claim 8, this rejection is deemed improper and should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1, 3, 6-8 and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quigley (US 5,324,248) in view of Hatch et al. (US 5,840,386) and further in view of Fujita et al. (US 5,296,582) is respectfully traversed.

In view of the amendment of independent claims 1 and 11 to incorporate the subject matter of non-rejected claim 4, this rejection is deemed improper and should be withdrawn.

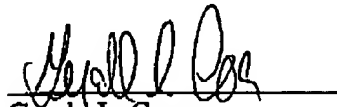
It is respectfully submitted that the rejections of record are improper and that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of all claims are courteously solicited.

A response to the Office Action mailed May 14, 2003 was due August 14, 2003. Accordingly, submitted herewith is a petition for an extension of time for three (3) months. Please charge fees/surcharge which may be required by this

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paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-2440.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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November 10, 2003  
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